

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 55

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide improved reimbursement for clinical social worker services under the Medicare program.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 6, 2009

Mr. INOUE introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide improved reimbursement for clinical social worker services under the Medicare program.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Equity for Clinical So-
5 cial Workers Act of 2009”.

6 **SEC. 2. IMPROVED REIMBURSEMENT FOR CLINICAL SO-**
7 **CIAL WORKER SERVICES UNDER MEDICARE.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1833(a)(1)(F)(ii) of the
9 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395l(a)(1)(F)(ii)) is

1 amended to read as follows: “(ii) the amount determined
2 by a fee schedule established by the Secretary,”.

3 (b) DEFINITION OF CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER
4 SERVICES EXPANDED.—Section 1861(hh)(2) of the Social
5 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(hh)(2)) is amended by
6 striking “services performed by a clinical social worker (as
7 defined in paragraph (1))” and inserting “such services
8 and such services and supplies furnished as an incident
9 to such services performed by a clinical social worker (as
10 defined in paragraph (1))”.

11 (c) CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER SERVICES NOT TO
12 BE INCLUDED IN INPATIENT HOSPITAL SERVICES.—Sec-
13 tion 1861(b)(4) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
14 1395x(b)(4)) is amended by striking “and services” and
15 inserting “clinical social worker services, and services”.

16 (d) TREATMENT OF SERVICES FURNISHED IN INPA-
17 TIENT SETTING.—Section 1832(a)(2)(B)(iii) of the Social
18 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395k(a)(2)(B)(iii)) is amend-
19 ed—

20 (1) by striking “and services” and inserting
21 “clinical social worker services, and services”; and

22 (2) by adding “and” at the end.

1 (e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
2 this section shall apply to payments made for clinical so-
3 cial worker services furnished on or after January 1, 2010.

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